

SPECIFICATION AMENDMENTS

Replace paragraph [0015] with:

[0015] The filter cartridge can take one of a variety of forms. Referring to FIG. 2, the filter cartridge 24 is shown as the spin-on type to provide for easy maintenance.

Accordingly, the filter cartridge 24 includes an endplate 30 having a central threaded outlet hole 32 and a plurality of radial inlet ports 34. An outer canister 36 is joined to the outer periphery of the endplate 30 by any conventional filter assembly techniques. The filter contains a cylindrical filter element 38 that is urged by a spring 40 toward the endplate 30 ~~endplate 32~~. A spacer element 42 positions the cylindrical filter element 38 relative to the endplate 30 to allow for inlet flow through the radial inlet ports 34. In operation, fluid exits the filter head 10 through the filter head exit port 26, enters the filter cartridge 24 through the radial inlet ports 34 in the filter endplate 30, passes radially outward and then radially inward through the cylindrical filter element 38 whereby oil is filtered, then to a central chamber where it is collected and exits the filter through the central threaded outlet hole 32 and returns to the filter mounting head through the filter head entrance port 28.

Replace paragraph [0022] with:

[0022] The safety valve 12 also includes a valve actuator assembly 80 that is also mounted into the valve chamber 60. The valve actuator assembly 80 includes a valve actuator stem 82 that is axially aligned along the filter mounting axis 46 in spaced axial relation to the center opening through the annular seating surface 74 and the planar end sealing face of the valve closure element 62. The actuator stem 82 is urged axially away from the valve closure element via a spring 84. The spring 84 is supported by the filter head body 14 through the washer/stem guide 68 and urges a pair of support plates 86 that are mounted to the actuator stem 82 with a nut 88. The support plates 86 secure a flexible rubber diaphragm 90 therebetween. The cover plate 16 generally encloses the valve chamber 60 and traps the outer peripheral edge of the rubber diaphragm 90 between the cover plate 16 and the filter head body 14 to provide a sealed internal chamber and an external chamber exposed to ambient atmospheric pressure. Bolts are used to screw the cover plate 16 to the filter head body 14. As shown in the drawings, the valve actuator stem 82 extends through a hole 92 in the cover plate to provide an exposed indicating portion 94 on the actuator stem 82 that indicates that the valve is closed when the indicating portion projects from the cover plate 16 and that the valve is open when the indicating portion is partially withdrawn, flush or

recessed into the hole 92 of the cover plate 16. With this arrangement, the support plates 86 and flexible diaphragm 90 are exposed to the oil pressure contained within the valve chamber 60 when in use, which is exposed to the pressure which is experienced at the outlet port 20. When a vacuum condition occurs at the outlet port 20 (such as may be caused by a downstream oil pump) which is sufficient to overcome the force of the spring 84, the flexible diaphragm 90 is sucked inwardly due to the vacuum pressure which in turn translates the actuator stem against the action of the spring 76 which causes the end of the actuator stem 82 to strike and open the valve closure element 62 away from the seat and against the action of the valve spring 76. Movement of the actuator stem 82 is constrained by virtue of respective stop surfaces provided by the cover plate 16 and the filter head body 14 which will strike the support plates 86 and thereby limit translation or movement of the actuator stem 82.